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OBSERVATIONS ON THE ACCREDITATION OF MICROBIOLOGISTS¹

NORMAN C. LAFFER

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At the Chicago meeting of 1951 and the Boston meeting of 1952 a considerable group of bacteriologists voiced objections to certain aspects of the program for certification evolved by the Subcommittee on Certification and Problems of Personnel. These viewpoints, together with remarks on certain recent developments are presented here.

The Subcommittee on Certification and Problems of Personnel for over two years has been seeking a satisfactory means of obtaining certification for specialists, particularly in the field of medical microbiology. The Subcommittee first proposed to form an Institute of Microbiology to act as the certifying agency. This proposal was rather complex and appeared to be related to the American Medical Association in order to gain certain desirable concessions in hospital practice.

When the matter came before the Business Meeting of the S. A. B. in Chicago in 1951 the membership expressed a very active interest and requested, by resolution, that all members be allowed to vote upon the proposals after adequate publicity had been given in the *News Letter* of the S. A. B. However, between then and April 1952 the Subcommittee reported directly to the Council of the S. A. B., and expressed the opinion that there was no reason for presenting the program to the membership of the S. A. B.

Unfortunately the *News Letter* did not carry detailed information on the proposal until three months after the vote was taken last January. It is interesting to note that the information which should have appeared in our *News Letter* was available to the members of the College of American Pathologists through their Secretary's *News Letter* of November-December 1951, a month before the S. A. B. vote was taken.

The action of the Subcommittee in seeking a working relationship with the American Medical

Association was approved by the above vote of the S. A. B. membership. However, in the light of developments, the original broad proposal of the Institute of Microbiology was dropped. In its place the Subcommittee sought to establish the American Board of Medical Microbiology and to this end approached the American Board of Pathology. The Pathologists' representatives approved the plan and a statement of intent was agreed upon between the two groups. In the agreement are three proposals which should be scrutinized very carefully by all members of the S. A. B.

The first objectionable item is the definition of medical microbiology as a branch of medicine. The effect of this definition is to make medical microbiology, in the final analysis, the province of those with the M.D. degree. For the past twenty-five years chemists, and more recently a group of biologists, have found it necessary for scientific and administrative reasons to oppose actively legislation which would define the practice of medicine to include fundamental biological and chemical procedures. It is certain that the acceptance by the S. A. B. of the definition proposed by the new Board of Medical Microbiology would, in the end, harm more bacteriologists than would benefit from the activities of the Board. If the definition were changed to read, "Medical microbiology is that phase of microbiology related to medicine," it would be more acceptable to bacteriologists at large.

The second objection to the "statement of intent" involves the system of determining representation on the Board. The effect of the present plan is to weight the representation heavily in favor of M.D.'s. In spite of the Subcommittee's recom-

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Mr. Francis C. Harwood,
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Baltimore 2, Maryland
Remittances should be made payable
to: Society of American Bacteriologists.

¹ *Editor's note:* In the August issue of the *News Letter* it was reported that a major portion of the General Business Meeting of the Society, held in Boston on April 30, was devoted to two general presentations, by Drs. William J. Cromartie and Norman C. Laffer, and to an open discussion of different phases of the problem of accrediting microbiologists. By mutual agreement the final text of Dr. Laffer's discussion was not prepared until after the consideration of the American Board of Medical Microbiology by the American Medical Association in June, by which time it was too late for the press deadline for the August issue. Members of the Society are urged to refer back to the text of Dr. Cromartie's remarks, published on pages 16-20 of the August issue.

mendation that the S. A. B. be represented by two Ph.D.'s and one M.D., the first three representatives of the S. A. B. are two M.D.'s and one Ph.D.! Under the Articles of Incorporation it is possible for the Board to be composed exclusively of M.D.'s.

A third statement in the agreement calls for a contract between the American Board of Pathology and the American Board of Medical Microbiology for a term of 25 years, cancellable on 5 years notice. Under the circumstances a contract for 5 years, cancellable on one year's notice would seem to be more realistic.

In February, 1952, after the statement of intent had been agreed upon by the S. A. B. Subcommittee and representatives of the American Board of Pathology, the Board of Governors of the College of American Pathologists registered their opposition to the plan. In a letter to the Advisory Board for Medical Specialties they stated, "The Governors of the College are especially desirous of *preserving the principle that laboratory medicine, including bacteriology, is a part of the practice of medicine and that certification be restricted to those who are licensed to practice medicine.*" This was the status at the time the S. A. B. met in Boston. (The italics are Dr. Laffer's.)

In spite of the action of the Board of Governors, the Advisory Board for Medical Specialties approved the proposed American Board of Medical Microbiology. The fight was then carried to the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association where the viewpoint of the Board of Governors was sustained and the American Board of Medical Microbiology was disapproved.

In a sense the problem of certification is back where it started. A most difficult situation confronts medical bacteriologists with hospital positions. The A. M. A. requires that all specialists in approved Teaching Hospitals receive their certification from an agency of the A. M. A. Under the recent decision of the House of Delegates it is impossible for a Ph.D. to be certified as a specialist in medical microbiology, a situation which is manifestly unfair. It is doubtful that the extremely conservative (if not reactionary) attitude of the A. M. A. will be modified until pressure is brought to bear by some group at least as powerful as the A. M. A. itself.

It may well be that certification is desired in other fields, for example in public health bac-

teriology. At least three alternatives present themselves: (1) The S. A. B. could establish its own certification board. The S. A. B. could then exercise direct control, but at the same time it would assume direct responsibility, a situation with some undesirable legal implications. (2) The S. A. B. could establish an "Academy" to which individuals could be elected on the basis of background and demonstrated ability. (3) The S. A. B. could cooperate with other organizations and encourage the establishment of a separate board for certification activities.

At present there exists an excellent opportunity for implementing the third alternative. In November 1950, the American Society of Professional Biologists published a plan for certification of specialists in the various phases of biology. The following points of the plan should be noted: (1) it is founded upon the idea that medical microbiology is a branch of biology; (2) it permits the affiliated organization (in this case the S. A. B.) to either appoint the members of the examining Board or to nominate several persons for each position, whichever the organization prefers; this proviso would avoid legal responsibility by the S. A. B.; (3) it is composed of members of a representative group of professions; and (4) it would certify bacteriologists regardless of the type of advanced degree.

In offering this plan the American Society of Professional Biologists continues its policy of advancing the economic and professional status of individual biologists by supplementing the activities of scientific and technical societies. This plan of certification of biologists is offered as a service to these groups.

(*Editor's comment:* In the interests of completeness, it seems only fair to point out that the original publication of this plan in "ASPB NEWS" for September-October 1950 was accompanied by the statement, "These By-Laws have *not been presented* to governing groups of any scientific societies as yet. When in their final form, such action will be taken." The ASPB plan seems to have been formulated without consultation of officers, Council, or other representatives of the S. A. B.; information has not come to us concerning further developments, if any; and we have never been requested to publish details of the plan for the benefit of the members of the S. A. B.)

MICROBIOLOGY AND THE A.M.A. CONVENTION²

Summary of Events Prior to the Convention. The American Board of Medical Microbiology was originally sponsored by the Society of American Bacteriologists (S. A. B.). This society, with a membership of approximately 4500, includes most of the eminent bacteriologists of the country, but it includes only about 450 physicians. About 1500 have doctorate training of other types, chiefly at the Ph.D. level. About 2700 have no doctorate. Obviously, then, the Society is overwhelmingly an organization of non-physicians.

The Steering Committee appointed by the S. A. B. to organize the new Board was composed of 11 physician-members and one Ph.D.-member. Of the twelve, seven are presently or were formerly engaged in public health work, either in governmental agencies or in academic centers.

The Steering Committee prepared a Certificate of Incorporation and a set of by-laws which provided for certification of Ph.D.-bacteriologists, as well as M.D.-bacteriologists. It seems evident, however, that the main purpose was to certify Ph.D.-candidates, because provision already existed and still exists for the certification of M.D. candidates by the American Board of Pathology.

The new Board made plans for its permanent organization. There was some comment indicating that an effort might be made by the Board to exact a promise from each Ph.D.-diplomate to the effect that he would not practice independently of medical supervision; however, this stipulation was not included in the original by-laws supplied to the College, nor does it appear likely that such a stipulation would be acceptable in the long run to Ph.D.-bacteriologists in general. It would therefore be unenforceable.

In February of this year the proposals of the new Board were brought before the Advisory Board for Medical Specialties. The Advisory Board did give its approval, despite receipt of a letter from the College of American Pathologists requesting delay until the proposal could be publicized and given careful consideration by physicians in general, including the pathologists of the country. The

² Report of the committee appointed by the President and Executive Committee of the College of American Pathologists to act for the College in relation to the proposed American Board of Medical Microbiology. Reprinted from the *Secretary's News Letter* of the College of American Pathologists for July, 1952 (Volume VI, Number 7), with the kind permission of Dr. M. G. Westmoreland, Executive Secretary. This report is published here in furtherance of our efforts to make the S. A. B. *News Letter* a forum for the presentation to the members of the Society of as many facets as possible of problems that concern them.

text of the College letter was later published in the April issue of this *News Letter*.

It was known that the application for approval would then be submitted to the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals for ratification since that is the standard procedure in the establishment of a new Specialty Board. It was also known from personal contacts at that time that several members of the Council looked with favor on approval of the new Board, and this was abundantly confirmed in June, when formal hearings were held.

The Officers and Governors of the College were greatly disturbed on hearing of the unexpected support which the new Board was receiving. They therefore gave the problem close attention. The President appointed a special committee, with Dr. Harry P. Smith as Chairman, to consult with colleagues in the field of pathology, and with leaders of organized medicine in general, and to acquaint them with the problems involved. It was evident all along that a few of our colleagues were not familiar with the realities of medical practice outside of cloistered walls, or were indifferent to them. The President instructed his committee to proceed with due recognition of this fact, and to enlist their friendly understanding and support whenever possible. This, we believe, was achieved to a gratifying degree.

By personal contact and by telephone the President's committee remained at all times in close contact with the Governors and Officers of the College, including the Executive Secretary and his staff. It was promptly agreed by all consulted that the matter should be carried to state medical societies, and through them to delegates of the American Medical Association. Sample resolutions were then drawn up in conference, and these, along with written statements, were sent by the Executive Secretary to secretaries of state pathology societies and to counselors of the American Society of Clinical Pathologists. A great amount of labor was then expended at the local level in explaining the problem and in arranging mechanisms whereby the viewpoints of physicians at the grass roots level might be made known to the legislative bodies of medical societies. The success of these efforts can be gauged by the fact that on rather short notice resolutions were passed by eight state medical societies, to the end that their delegates to the American Medical Association were instructed to oppose A. M. A. approval of Specialty Boards designed to certify non-medical men at the diplomate level. In other states, the officers and delegates were merely supplied with information without making any effort to secure official sponsorship of resolutions.

Action taken at the A. M. A. Convention of June 1952. As indicated in the May issue of this

News Letter, the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association defeated the effort to secure A. M. A. approval for the new Specialty Board in Microbiology. In fact, the sentiment opposed to acceptance of the new board was very strong at the convention. It therefore seems unlikely that further efforts will be made to secure A. M. A. approval.

The official summary of actions by the House of Delegates of the A. M. A. has now been published. The references are as follows:

1. Report of Council on Medical Education and Hospitals, J. A. M. A. 149: 873 (June 28) 1952.
2. Report of Reference Committee on Medical Education and Hospitals, J. A. M. A. 149: 873-874 (June 28) 1952.
3. Resolutions on Specialty Board for Microbiology, J. A. M. A. 149: 939-940 (July 5) 1952.
4. Report of Reference Committee on Medical Education and Hospitals, J. A. M. A. 149: 940 (July 5) 1952.

These four items should be studied as a unit, for they are closely interrelated.

Reference 3 refers to nine similar resolutions, almost identical in content, that were introduced on the floor of the House of Delegates. Eight of them represented the official views of the State Medical Societies of California, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York and Rhode Island. One was presented by Dr. M. G. Westmoreland, delegate from the Section on Pathology and Physiology of the A. M. A.

A typical resolution was as follows:

"WHEREAS, An application is presently being processed with the intent of obtaining American Medical Association approval of a Specialty Board in Medical Microbiology which will certify non-physicians as diplomates in a field of medical practice; and

"WHEREAS, There is already in existence an American Board of Pathology which can provide certification of properly qualified physicians in the field of medical microbiology, now therefore be it

"RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates reaffirm its approval of the Essentials for Approved Examining Boards in Medical Specialties, including the principles that applicants for examination must be graduates of a medical school approved by the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals and must be licensed to practice medicine; and be it further

"RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates instruct the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals to limit its approval of specialty boards to those which can comply with these essentials, in order to safeguard the interests and welfare of patients."

The nine resolutions, in accord with standard procedure, were at once referred to a Reference Committee for open hearings, somewhat analogous

to those held before Committees of Congress in Washington. The Committee in this case was the reference Committee on Medical Education and Hospitals—a committee composed entirely of delegates.

Reference No. 1 has to do with a special supplementary report prepared by the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals, and submitted to the House of Delegates, and then referred to the Reference Committee already mentioned, for open hearings. In essence, the report requests time for further study by the Trustees and the Council and for the privilege of presenting recommendations to the House of Delegates at a later date. The submission of this report was something of a relief, for, as stated already, several members of the Council were known to be sympathetic to the establishment of a new Board.

On the following day, June 10, the Reference Committee held open hearings on the nine resolutions (Ref. 3) and on the special report of the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals (Ref. 1). Officers and Governors of the College participated freely, as did certain delegates and members of the Advisory Board for Medical Specialties and of the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals. The members of the Reference Committee are to be commended for encouraging free and complete expression of opinion and for the clear, forceful reports finally written. These committee reports (Ref. 2 and 4) were referred back to the House of Delegates, where they were approved without dissenting vote. These reports provide that:

1. "On any new matters, action or recommendation by the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals, which is a Committee of the House of Delegates, must be submitted to the House of Delegates for its approval before being adopted. The Council on Medical Education and Hospitals has no power to initiate any policy regarding Specialty Boards contrary to any regulation previously adopted by the House of Delegates."

2. The proposed study of non-physician specialists and their relationship to American medicine is authorized, but the report, when presented, is not to contain "recommendations," as originally proposed by the Council.

3. "In the eight resolutions introduced by physicians from state medical societies in widely scattered areas of the country and one from the Section on Pathology and Physiology, they have stated in no uncertain manner how they feel about the subject, and your reference committee is confident that the Board of Trustees, the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals, and Advisory Board for Medical Specialties will give due consideration to the subject matter contained in these resolutions.

"The Council on Medical Education and Hospitals has not recommended the approval of an

American Board for any non-physician group, and hence your reference committee feels it is unnecessary to take any action on these resolutions at this time but should await the report to the House of Delegates of the study of the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals and the Board of Trustees on the subject."

Comment. It is evident that this A. M. A. convention presented us with a crisis, and, we believe, a turning point in a problem of great interest to pathologists. This debate over the role of Ph.D.-workers is an old debate, as everybody knows. However, the current phase of the debate is unique, in that the microbiologists made a bold effort to settle the matter, once and for all, by trying to secure diplomate status, under auspices of the A. M. A. If they could secure acceptance as diplomates, at the highest levels of organized medicine, they would have no further difficulty in convincing hospitals, public health agencies and state legislatures that they were entitled to practice medicine in the field over which they had been examined. Had the microbiologists succeeded in their campaign, it is obvious that the clinical chemists, clinical psychologists and others would have followed their example. The field of medical practice would have been nibbled away, bit by bit, and given to groups which lack competence and understanding in the broad aspects of medical practice, in other words to men who are not Doctors of Medicine.

It is indeed fortunate that the pathologists of the country, under the leadership of the College of American Pathologists, recognized the danger. When they brought the matter to the attention of state medical sciences, they were most gratified at the response, which was overwhelmingly favorable. The nine resolutions expressed the viewpoint of the overwhelming majority of the country's practitioners of medicine.

In discussing our problem with colleagues in other fields, we called attention to similar problems in other branches of specialization. We found our colleagues fully alert to these problems. Practitioners everywhere welcome the opportunity to cooperate for they are coming gradually to realize that a threat to one is a threat to all. The credit and prestige which now come to pathologists are a reflection of the fact that our leadership has provided a rallying point for men in all branches of medicine.

It is evident, nevertheless, that the non-medical scientists, in trying to enter the field of patient care, have received active support from a relatively small but influential segment of the medical profession. To understand this, one must appreciate the important role of Ph.D.-scientists in the medical schools and research organizations of the country. Here, their performance has been outstanding, especially in the fields of fundamental research. Indeed, our medical school departments of anatomy,

biochemistry, physiology and microbiology are now staffed to a considerable extent by Ph.D.-personnel. Many of these men are distinguished investigators and teachers, and they have deservedly acquired great prestige in these two fields. It would be a mistake, however, to believe that competence in these two fields would imply competence in the field of patient care. This mistake is one with which we are all familiar and is sometimes spoken of as the "fallacy of misplaced expertness." Obviously, this error is one which a few of our colleagues have made. It has been made particularly by some of those who are closely associated with these Ph.D.-scientists in common problems of teaching and research. These men see and appreciate the role of the Ph.D.-scientist in academic circles, but without being aware of the dangers which exist when they enter into medical practice outside of cloistered walls. The Ph.D.-scientists themselves have many qualms about the matter. Almost none of them are willing to work purely at the technological level, and most of them realize that they are not competent to consult in day-by-day problems of diagnosis and treatment. The factors which may tend to draw these men into the field of patient care are many and complex. It is partly a matter of overproduction and competition in certain fields. Of course, problems of professional prestige also enter into the picture, but it is no exaggeration to say that few of the really competent scientists would leave the academic and investigative field, were it not for economic factors.

As we face the future we must realize that these various problems will recur in various forms. Indeed, the House of Delegates appreciated the complex nature of the problem. It authorized the Trustees and the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals to study the entire problem of non-physician specialists and report later to the House of Delegates. The Council has been instructed to "elicit opinions from all groups concerned." Pathologists will await these studies with interest, and will, of course, cooperate in any way they can in reaching sound solutions of these important problems, but we must never abandon the principle that only physicians can practice medicine.

Theodore J. Curphey, M.D.

Maxwell J. Fein, M.D.

Harry P. Smith, M.D.

Supplementary Report by the Secretary-Treasurer of the S. A. B.

Early in the year, it appeared that the Subcommittee on Certification and Problems of Personnel (Dr. Thomas Francis, Jr., Chairman; Dr. Jerome T. Syvertson, Secretary) would complete its duties shortly and that it would be superseded by our representatives to the American Board of Medical Microbiology (see report of the Subcommittee in the April *News Letter*). Dr. Dubos and

I, therefore, began to consider the reconstitution of the parent Committee, for the purpose of studying those areas of need not covered by the A.B.M.M. As a result of conferences with Dr. Laffer and others, and of the open discussion at the Annual Meeting in Boston, it became evident that, aside from the areas to be covered by the A.B.M.M., the only other obvious need at the present time was in the broad peripheral area of what Dr. Dubos has termed paramedical microbiology and I have called quasi-medical microbiology. This would seem to include, for example, public health bacteriology and certain phases of diagnostic bacteriology. Actually both terms seem applicable. The field in question is *para*-medical in the sense that it is closely associated with medical problems; it is *quasi*-medical because in the minds of many people it is seemingly identical with medical microbiology.

Accordingly, a new Committee on Certification and Problems of Personnel was appointed under the chairmanship of Earle H. Spaulding, Ph.D., Chairman of the Department of Microbiology, Temple University School of Medicine, and S. A. B. Councilor from the Eastern Pennsylvania Branch. Other present members of this Committee are Lester O. Krampitz, Ph.D., Chairman of the Department of Microbiology, Western Reserve University, and late S. A. B. Councilor from the Ohio Branch; Norman C. Laffer, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Bacteriology, University of Maryland, and Executive Secretary of the American Society of Professional Biologists; and Morris L. Rakiety, Ph.D., M.D., Director of the South Shore Analytical and Research Laboratory, Islip, New York, Associate Professor of Bacteriology at the Long Island College of Medicine, and President of the New York City Branch of the S. A. B. The membership of this Committee has been restricted intentionally for the present to a small group that is believed to be representative. Additional members will be appointed, and new areas surveyed, as the needs develop. The immediate goal of this Committee is to study the problem of accreditation of microbiologists not intended to be included under the provisions of the A.B.M.M. Its work, therefore, will be quite distinct from that of the Subcommittee under Drs. Francis and Syverton, though the two groups will find it advantageous to confer. It is intended that the new Committee shall explore the para-quasi-medical field mentioned, at all levels including the doctoral. It will maintain close communication with our Committee on Curricula, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Charles A. Evans, which is formulating standards for basic training in microbiology with a view to the establishment of a program for the accreditation of curricula and institutions offering such training. We believe that this parallel development is essential to the success of any program of certification of individuals

as having special competence in any area of microbiology.

The members of the S. A. B. were informed in the August *News Letter* that the American Medical Association had postponed action on the A.B.M.M., pending further investigation of the situation. A detailed presentation of the views of one of the medical groups concerned is reprinted above. There is some reason to believe that a considerable group of pathologists and other medical men do not agree with all of the views expressed by the Committee of the College of American Pathologists. Without going into an extended analysis at this time, it seems nevertheless important to emphasize two points. First, it was remote from the intention of our Subcommittee to concentrate on the certification of Ph.D.-candidates or to insinuate nonphysicians into the field of patient care; indeed, in its report in the April *News Letter*, the Subcommittee stated, "The subcommittee upon undertaking this assignment recognized that the Advisory Board for Medical Specialties, the eighteen existent specialty boards, the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals, and the American Medical Association would hesitate to recognize, at least without differences of opinion, any new specialty board which attempted to provide for the certification of Ph.D.'s or doctorates of equivalent training and experience. Contrariwise, the Subcommittee realized that a new board limited to M.D.'s would be approved comparatively readily, if reason for establishment of the board was sound." Second, the principle of accreditation of nonphysicians engaged in certain phases of laboratory medicine has long been recognized (admittedly not at the diplomate level) by an organization associated with the A. M. A., in the form of the program for Medical Technologists, which is supervised by the American Society of Clinical Pathologists. It is encouraging that the A. M. A. has instituted an investigation of the whole problem of "laboratory medicine." It is hoped sincerely that out of the discussions will come clarification of the semantic problem that seems to be at the root of the disagreements, namely, at exactly what point does the work of the laboratory become the practice of medicine? Traditionally, such laboratory work has been the province of "clinical pathology," which in turn has been regarded as a branch of the practice of medicine. Conceivably, certain features of this principle are anachronistic and need to be modified. In any case, our Subcommittee must continue its work until a definitive conclusion is reached in regard to medical microbiology. We believe that the need for new developments in that area is more evident than is indicated by the above report from the College of American Pathologists.

As this text goes to the printer on October 16th, another encouraging development has appeared. The American Society of Professional Biologists is

arranging a conference of representatives of those groups most actively concerned with problems relating to laboratory medicine, as follows: Society of American Bacteriologists, College of American Pathologists, American Chemical Society, American Association of Clinical Chemists, National Association of Clinical Laboratories, Laboratory Section of the American Public Health Association, Conference of State and Provincial Public Health Laboratory Directors, American Society of Professional Biologists. It is intended to hold a conference of these representatives on the occasion of the meeting of the American Public Health Association in Cleveland, on October 20th, to discuss the formation of a permanent committee whose function would be to provide a "Conference Table" for all concerned. A report from the representatives of the S. A. B. will appear in a future *News Letter*.

INTERIM ACTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Following are interim actions of the Council, not reported previously, or elsewhere in this issue of the *News Letter*.

1. *Bacteriological Proceedings*. It has become evident that there exists a considerable demand for *Bacteriological Proceedings* (i.e., the abstracts of papers presented before our Annual Meetings) outside our membership, especially by libraries, which apparently have not been reached by the published notices of the availability of back numbers. Arrangements have been made, therefore, and approved by the Council, to include *Bacteriological Proceedings* with all future nonmember subscriptions to the *Journal of Bacteriology*, as a *Supplement* to the *Journal* of the month of issue. In compensation for this supplementary publication and for the approximately 25% increase in the regular text that is in prospect (discussed below), the nonmember subscription rate has been increased from \$6.00 to \$7.00 per volume (\$14.00 per year). The members of the Society will continue to receive the *Proceedings* as before, with no increase in the subscription rate. Because the Society is committed at present to a policy of supplying the *Proceedings* to its members as part of the expenses of the Annual Meetings, and because the *Proceedings* are in no wise intended to be an integral part of the *Journal*, but only a *Supplement*, the Society will continue to absorb the cost of the members' copies of the *Proceedings*, but on a *pro rata* basis, which will reduce the unit cost considerably. In

addition, there will be savings of some hundreds of dollars, since as a *Supplement* to the *Journal* the *Proceedings* will be mailed at a lower postal rate and the cost of stuffing them into envelopes will be eliminated.

2. *Cumulative Index*. The Council approved the plans for a cumulative index to the *Journal of Bacteriology*, discussed elsewhere in this issue of the *News Letter*; subsequently, the Council Policy Committee approved the negotiation with the Office of Naval Research of a contract to cover the editorial expenses of assembling the cumulative index, in the sum of \$2,500.

3. *Journal of Bacteriology*. In the August issue of the *News Letter* we discussed some of the problems besetting the *Journal of Bacteriology* and indicated some of the avenues by which solutions might be found. In the meantime, plans have been formulated, and approved by the Council, as follows.

a. The Council voted to increase by \$600 for the year 1952 the allotment to Dr. Porter for editorial expenses, with the specific aim of enabling him to employ a qualified full-time assistant.

b. It was agreed with our Publisher to increase the page quota of the *Journal* by another hundred pages for 1952 to a total of 1,800 pages. The new quota probably will apply also to 1953.

c. Beginning with the January 1953 number, the *Journal* will be printed in a two-column format in 9 point type, instead of the present single column in 10 point type. For comparison, it may be noted that the body of the *News Letter* is printed in the still smaller 8 point type. This change in format will have two important benefits. First, it will be possible to avail ourselves of the increased quota of pages without either making the volumes of the *Journal* too bulky or increasing the number of volumes per year. Second, economies that result from decreased consumption of paper and reduced presswork make it possible to publish 10% more text at no increase in cost. The combined result of the increased page quota and the increased efficiency is that we anticipate being able to publish in 1953 the equivalent of 1,980 pages in the present format, or nearly 25% more than in 1951.

d. In line with a growing tendency to ask authors to defray a portion of the costs of publication in scientific periodicals, it has been decided to abandon the practice of issuing 25 reprints gratis to the author of a paper in the *Journal*, and to increase the rates sufficiently to yield some profit on the sale of reprints.

THE WAKSMAN FOUNDATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY IN FRANCE

In 1949, Rhone-Poulenc, the leading French chemical company manufacturing streptomycin and other antibiotics in France, established a foundation for the purpose of supporting investiga-

tions in the field of microbiology in various universities and in other scientific institutions of that country. This foundation was named in honor of the discoverer of streptomycin. In view of the fact

that the Rutgers Research and Endowment Foundation, which holds the patents for streptomycin in the United States, has not applied for patents in any of the European countries, the French company felt a certain moral obligation to contribute to the support of research in microbiology in France, in a manner similar to that of the American companies in the United States through the Institute of Microbiology established at Rutgers University.

Professor Jacques Trefouel, Director of the Pasteur Institute, has been made chairman of this foundation and four other French investigators, representing different universities, have been selected as the other members. The grants made by this foundation range from 100,000 to 500,000 francs a year. In addition, the French foundation is sending annually a promising young French microbiologist to Rutgers University for a year's training and is supporting in France the work of any member of Rutgers University who is selected by a special committee of the University. By special arrangement between the Rutgers Research and Endowment Foundation and the French Foundation, these exchange scholars are paid their travel expenses and are given sufficient funds for living expenses in the respective countries.

The exchange scholars this year are Mr. Curtis Williams, a graduate student of the Department of Physiology of Rutgers University, working at the Institut Pasteur in France under Professor Grabar, and Dr. Pierre Villemain, of the Institut Pasteur working in the Department of Microbiology of Rutgers University.

The following is a list of scientific investigations supported by the French Foundation since November 3, 1949, when it was first established.

1949-1950

- DR. RIVIÈRE—Laboratoire de Biochimie du Ministère des Colonies, Nogent sur Marne.
Produits antibiotiques extraits des végétaux supérieurs (Antibiotic substances produced by higher plants).
- DR. VILLEMINE—Service de Chimie Thérapeutique B, Institut Pasteur, Paris.
Antibiotiques d'origine fongique (Antibiotics of fungus origin).
- PROF. E. BERNARD—Faculté de Médecine de Paris, et Dr. Coletsos.
Étude de l'action anti-B.K. de la streptomycine et recherche des moyens susceptibles d'empêcher l'acquisition par le B.K. d'une chimiorésistance à la streptomycine (Studies of the antituberculosis action of streptomycin and methods for preventing the acquirement of resistance by the tuberculosis organism against streptomycin).

1950-1951

- DR. LEDERER—Institut de Biologie Physico-chimique, Paris.

Recherches sur la chimie des mycobactéries et du bacille diphtérique (Studies on the chemistry of mycobacteria and of the diphtheriae organism).

- DR. PIERRE SCHAEFFER—Assistant à l'Institut Pasteur, Paris.

Recherches sur le mode d'action de la streptomycine (Studies on the mode of action of streptomycin).

- DR. RIVIÈRE—(Renewal).

Principes antibiotiques des végétaux supérieurs: étude de la *Ceravine*, principe antibiotique du *Cerasus avium* (Antibiotic principles of higher plants: studies on ceravine, principal antibiotic of *Cerasus avium*).

- DR. DUCHÉ—Chef de Laboratoire au Museum, Paris.

Étude sur la flore microbienne des sols (Studies on the microbial flora of the soil).

- LABORATOIRE DE PHARMACIE GALÉNIQUE, Faculté de Pharmacie, Paris.

Mise au point des méthodes de dosage des antibiotiques dans les préparations pharmaceutiques (Methods of measuring antibiotic concentrations in pharmacological preparations).

- DR. M. VILLEMINE (Renewal).

Recherches sur les antibiotiques d'origine fongique (Studies on the antibiotics of fungus origin).

- DR. RENÉ MARAL—Assistant du Prof. Sedaillon, Clinique des Maladies Infectieuses, Lyon.

Recherches sur l'emploi des antibiotiques dans le traitement des maladies infectieuses (Studies on the use of antibiotics in the treatment of infectious diseases.)

- DR. DEHAY—Professeur de Botanique et de Matière Médicale, Faculté de Médecine, Lille.

Recherches sur les antibiotiques d'origine fongique (Studies on antibiotics of fungus origin).

- DR. ANDRÉ DELAUDE—Faculté de Médecine de Toulouse.

Recherches sur l'emploi clinique de la streptomycine (Studies on clinical uses of streptomycin).

1951-1952

- DR. BOREL—Interne de l'Hôpital St. Lazare, Paris.

Étude des modifications de l'*Asteromyces peripneumoniae* sous l'influence de divers antibiotiques (Studies on the modification of *Asteromyces peripneumoniae* under the influence of various antibiotics).

- PROF. FROMAGEOT—Laboratoire de Chimie Biologique de la Faculté des Sciences de Paris.

Activité antibactérienne de divers lysozymes extraits des oeufs de poule (Antibacterial activity of different lysozymes extracted from poultry eggs).

- PROF. LAVIER—Laboratoire de Pathologie Exotique, Faculté de Médecine, Paris.

Action des antibiotiques sur les enzymes dy-

séneriques, ainsi que sur leur flore d'accompagnement (Action of antibiotics upon dysentery enzymes as well as upon the accompanying flora).

DR. H. LAMENSANS—Chef du Laboratoire de Bactériologie, Institut Pasteur, Paris.

Synergie et antagonismes des antibiotiques (Synergism and antagonism among antibiotics).

DR. JACQUES MONNIER—Assistant à la Faculté de Médecine de Toulouse.

Recherches sur les associations d'antibiotiques (Studies on antibiotic associations).

DR. HARTMANN—Service du Prof. Fauvert, Hopital Beaujon, Paris.

Influence des antibiotiques sur la régénération des protides (Influence of antibiotics upon the regeneration of proteins).

DR. SOREL—Médecin de l'Hôpital St. Lazare, Paris.

Recherches sur les formes L engendrées par l'action des antibiotiques sur les gonocoques et les colibacilles (Studies on the L forms produced by the action of antibiotics upon the gonococcus and coli bacilli).

DR. DUCHE—(Renewal).

Étude sur la flore microbienne des sols. Streptomyces (Studies on the microbial flora of the soil. Streptomyces).

DR. LEDERER—(Renewal).

Chimie du bacille tuberculeux (The chemistry of the tuberculosis organism).

DR. DELAUDE—(Renewal).

Streptomycino-résistance du bacille tuberculeux (Streptomycin resistance of the tuberculosis bacillus).

IDA A. BENGTON 1881-1952

Dr. Ida A. Bengtson, retired Public Health Service scientist, nationally known for her research contributions in the field of rickettsial diseases, died Saturday, September 6, at the U. S. Public Health Service Hospital in Baltimore. She was 71 years old.

Dr. Bengtson was the first woman scientist to serve on the staff of the Public Health Service's Hygienic Laboratory, predecessor of the National Institutes of Health. She retired in 1946 after 30 years with the Public Health Service, having delayed her retirement for several years because of scientific manpower shortages during World War II.

For 10 years prior to her retirement, Dr. Bengtson conducted investigations of rickettsial diseases, including typhus fever, Q-fever, scrub typhus, and Rocky Mountain spotted fever. During the course of her studies on endemic typhus, she contracted the disease while administering inoculations.

Dr. Bengtson's work in developing the complement fixation test for typhus fever won her the Typhus Medal of the United States Typhus Com-

mission, awarded after her retirement. She was also well known for her earlier work on trachoma and on antitoxins for tetanus and gangrene.

Born at Harvard, Nebraska, in 1881, Dr. Bengtson received her A.B. degree from the University of Nebraska in 1903 and her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in bacteriology from the University of Chicago in 1913 and 1919 respectively. Before joining the Public Health Service in 1916, she was employed as a bacteriologist for a year by the Chicago Department of Health.

Dr. Bengtson was a member of numerous scientific organizations, including the Washington Academy of Science, the Society for Experimental Biology and the Society of American Bacteriologists. She was president of the Washington Branch of the S.A.B. in 1943-44, and Councilor from the Branch during 1945 and 1946.

BARNETT COHEN 1891-1952

Dr. Barnett Cohen, first Editor of *Bacteriological Reviews* (1937-1951) and President of the S.A.B. in 1950, died at his home in Baltimore on October 22nd. His passing will be deeply mourned by his many friends in the Society. For many years the Society had been his principal hobby and the full extent of his contributions to its welfare probably is known to only a few. He was often referred to fondly as the "Sage of the S.A.B." He had been the Society's Archivist since 1935, during which period he had accumulated much of the material for a history of the Society, which was to have been his *magnum opus*. A brief history, "Chronicles of the Society of American Bacteriologists," was composed and published for the occasion of our Golden Jubilee Meeting in Baltimore in 1950, over which he presided. A detailed account will be published subsequently of his life and contributions to bacteriology and to the Society.

SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS FOR MICROBIOLOGY

Dr. Guiseppe Penso, representative for Italy on the International Association of Microbiologists and a Vice-President of the VI International Congress for Microbiology, scheduled in the University of Rome, September 6-12, 1953, has requested that representatives of the Society of American Bacteriologists take the initiative in finding appropriate investigators to receive invitations to contribute to the program in Rome. In particular, the organizers of the Congress wish to know what subjects may be presented so that appropriate symposia may be arranged.

If investigators who would like to participate will send their names, tentative titles and brief indications of subject matter to the representative of the S.A.B. in the International Association, Stuart Mudd, Department of Microbiology,

School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia 4, Pennsylvania, he will forward these to the organizing committee. A carbon copy for future reference should be included with all data submitted to Stuart Mudd.

VIRUSES AND RICKETTSIA FOR TEACHING

In the interest of providing, at the lowest possible cost, authentic specimens of animal viruses adapted to laboratory exercises or demonstrations in teaching a course in this subject, a set of seven viruses has been selected by the committee on the viral and Rickettsial Registry of the Society of American Bacteriologists, and has been made available through the American Type Culture Collection. The set consists of the following viruses (v) and the Rickettsia (r): Herpes simplex (v) Influenza A (v), Influenza B (v), Poliomyelitis, Lansing strain (v), Mouse pneumonitis (v), Vaccinia (mouse neurotropic) (v), Rickettsialpox (r). Descriptions of the virus preparations and information on the terms of obtaining them will be furnished on request to the American Type Culture Collection, 2029 "M" Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

TYPE CULTURE CATALOG

Dr. Harriette D. Vera, Chairman of the S.A.B. Technical Committee for the American Type Culture Collection, reports as follows.

"The American Type Culture Collection hopes to publish a new catalog in the not-too-distant future. In preparation for this, a program for re-evaluation of the stock cultures has been initiated. Dr. John E. Faber has already studied a group of *Neisseria* cultures, and Dr. Philip R. Edwards is about to begin on the *Shigella* cultures. In order to accomplish this program, the help of the members of the Society of American Bacteriologists is earnestly requested. Volunteers who are willing to undertake evaluation of any preferred group—a genus, or a number of strains of one species—will please communicate with Dr. F. A. Weiss of the American Type Culture Collection, 2029 "M" Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C., and arrange for receiving whatever cultures can be conveniently handled.

"We believe that it would be invaluable both to the collection and to the profession to have a large number of microbiologists participating."

FELLOWSHIPS IN STATISTICS

Three \$4000 post-doctoral fellowships in Statistics are offered for 1953-54 by the University of Chicago. The purpose of these fellowships, which are open to holders of the doctor's degree or its equivalent in research accomplishment, is to acquaint established research workers in the

biological, physical, and social sciences with the crucial role of modern statistical analysis in the planning of experiments and other investigative programs, and in the analysis of empirical data. The development of the field of Statistics has been so rapid that most current research falls far short of attainable standards, and these fellowships (which represent the third year of a five-year program supported by the Rockefeller Foundation) are intended to help reduce the lag by giving statistical training to scientists whose primary interests are in substantive fields rather than in Statistics itself. The closing date for applications is February 1, 1953; instructions for applying may be obtained from the Committee on Statistics, University of Chicago, Chicago 37.

FOR SALE: FIFTH EDITION OF BERGEY'S MANUAL

Mrs. A. P. Hitchens has placed two copies of the fifth edition of Bergey's Manual of Determinative Bacteriology with Dr. R. S. Breed, 6 Sunset Drive, Geneva, New York. Anyone who may wish to purchase these books, please contact Dr. Breed.

NEW MOVIE ON YEAST

Dr. Carl C. Lindegren has notified us of the recent completion of a sound movie entitled "The Life Cycle of a Yeast Cell." This motion picture is about 600 feet long and takes about 12 minutes to show. The film shows the microforge making microtools, dissection of a fourspored ascus, budding and hybridization by time lapse photography, and commercial production of yeast. This film can be rented at \$2.65 by writing to the Audio Visual Aids Service, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois.

CULTURES WANTED

Dr. Ethel T. Eltinge, Department of Plant Science, Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, Mass., is studying the genus, *Chromobacterium*, for Bergey's Manual and needs any available cultures of these organisms. Cruess-Callaghan strains are desired especially.

EDITORIAL SERVICE AGREEMENTS

It has become evident that the stipulation of fixed sums for editorial expenses in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the present Editorial Service Agreement for the *Journal of Bacteriology* and *Bacteriological Reviews* (News Letter for April 1951, page 6) leaves no flexibility to meet changing conditions. In theory it would be necessary to draw up a revised Agreement every time a change was made in the budgets of the Editors. To meet

this exigency, the Council has approved a new version of the Agreement. There are only two changes. Paragraphs 3 and 4 have been reworded so that allocations to the Editors can be altered at any time by mutual consent, without revision of the Agreement, subject to the limitation established in the original Publishing Agreement, namely, "The Publisher shall not be required to pay for such editorial expenses in any one year in excess of ten per cent (10%) of the aggregate gross income resulting from both periodicals during the previous year." Secondly, paragraph 2 has been reworded to provide for a change in the per-page charge for the Publisher's services, in the event of a change of format.

Subsidiary to the Publishing Agreement for *Applied Microbiology* (News Letter for April 1952), an Agreement Relating to Editorial Service has been approved by the Council, similar to the one pertaining to the *Journal* and *Reviews*. It differs only in that the charge per page for Publisher's services is set at \$1.50 instead of \$1.25, owing to the larger amount of material to be printed on each page (two-column, 8½ by 11 inches format). For the present, \$500 per year has been agreed upon as the maximal figure that the Publisher can be expected to provide Dr. Woodruff under the terms of the Publishing Agreement, which sets a ceiling of \$1,200 for all editorial costs until such time as the revenue of *Applied Microbiology* shall exceed \$12,000 per year. Although the agreements for *Applied Microbiology* will not become effective legally until 1 January 1953, the Publisher has agreed to advance \$500, or as much thereof as may be required, for Dr. Woodruff's needs during 1952.

The texts of the two Agreements follow.

JOURNAL OF BACTERIOLOGY AND BACTERIOLOGICAL REVIEWS

AGREEMENT RELATING TO EDITORIAL SERVICE

THIS AGREEMENT, made this 25th day of January 1951, to become effective at such time in 1951 as the editorship of the JOURNAL OF BACTERIOLOGY shall be assumed by a new editor, by and between the SOCIETY OF AMERICAN BACTERIOLOGISTS, a corporation duly organized under the laws of the District of Columbia, hereinafter called the Society and THE WILLIAMS & WILKINS COMPANY, a body corporate duly organized under the laws of Maryland, hereinafter called the Publisher, witnesseth as follows:

(1) The Publisher shall perform certain editorial services for the Society's periodical publications, namely the JOURNAL OF BACTERIOLOGY and BACTERIOLOGICAL REVIEWS, specifically as follows:

(a) Write tables of contents; but the respective editors shall supply order of make-up.

(b) Write volume contents.

(c) Write copy for running heads.

(d) Make copy consistent for capitalization, abbreviations, bibliographical style, spelling (within any given paper), typographical style, and weight of subheads.

(e) Correct manuscript with respect to punctuation, sentence structure, syntax, grammar, and orthography; but no manuscript will be re-written in whole or in part.

(f) Indicate placement of figures and tables in make-up.

(g) Make required changes on cover pages, title-pages, etc.

(h) Conduct correspondence, as required, with authors, concerning problems related to the production of their material.

(i) First-read page-proof; but release of page-proof will be made by editors.

(2) The Publisher shall make a charge for these services of \$1.25 per printed page of text material; and of \$10.00 per printed page for preparation of volume contents; but if any change of format from that in effect in the year 1951, mutually agreed upon by the parties hereto, shall result in the printing of a larger number of words per printed page, then the Publisher may adjust the per-page charge in accord therewith.

(3) The Publisher shall also pay to the editors of the JOURNAL OF BACTERIOLOGY and of BACTERIOLOGICAL REVIEWS such sums each year as shall be agreed upon by the respective editors, the proper authority of the Society and the Publisher; the said sums shall be paid in four quarterly installments on or about the first days of January, April, July, and October in each year. The sums paid to the editors shall be used to cover necessary secretarial expense, postage, and other editorial costs.

(4) It is recited that this Agreement is made in pursuance of Paragraph 12 of an Agreement between the parties hereto dated October 2, 1950 and relating to the publication of the JOURNAL OF BACTERIOLOGY and BACTERIOLOGICAL REVIEWS; and that the sums stipulated in Paragraphs 2 and 3 above, together with any other sums expended for editorial expenses, shall not in the aggregate exceed the limit set by the said Paragraph 12 for editorial expenses.

(5) Charges stipulated in Paragraphs 2 and 3 above shall be charged to the profit-and-loss account of the publication of the JOURNAL OF BACTERIOLOGY and BACTERIOLOGICAL REVIEWS, necessarily kept by the Publisher under the aforesaid Agreement of October 2, 1950; and shall thus enter into the computation to determine division of profits as set forth in Paragraph 17 of that Agreement.

As witness the corporate names of the parties hereto, subscribed by their President, with their seals affixed, duly attested the day and year first above written.

THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN BACTERIOLOGISTS

By _____
President

Secretary

THE WILLIAMS & WILKINS COMPANY

By _____
President

Treasurer

APPLIED MICROBIOLOGY

AGREEMENT RELATING TO EDITORIAL SERVICE

This Agreement, made this _____ day of _____ 1952, to become effective on the first day of January 1953 by and between the Society of American Bacteriologists, a corporation duly organized under the laws of the District of Columbia, hereinafter called the Society and The Williams & Wilkins Company, a body corporate duly organized under the laws of Maryland, hereinafter called the Publisher, witnesseth as follows:

(1) The Publisher shall perform certain editorial services for the Society's periodical publication, APPLIED MICROBIOLOGY, specifically as follows:

- (a) Write tables of contents; but the editor shall supply order of make-up.
- (b) Write volume contents.
- (c) Write copy for running heads.
- (d) Make copy consistent for capitalization, abbreviations, bibliographical style, spelling (within any given paper), typographical style and weight of subheads.
- (e) Correct manuscripts with respect to punctuation, sentence structure, syntax, grammar, and orthography; but no manuscript will be re-written in whole or in part.
- (f) Indicate placement of figures and tables in make-up.
- (g) Make required changes on cover pages, title pages, etc.
- (h) Conduct correspondence, as required, with authors, concerning problems related to the production of their material.
- (i) Final-read page-proof; but release of page-proof will be made by the editor.

(2) The Publisher shall make a charge for these services of \$1.50 per printed page of text material; and of \$10.00 per printed page for preparation of volume contents; but if any change of format from that in effect during the first year of this

agreement, mutually agreed upon by the parties hereto, shall result in the printing of a larger number of words per printed page, then the Publisher may adjust the per-page charge in accord therewith.

- (3) The Publisher shall also pay to the editor such sum each year as shall be agreed upon by the editor, the proper authority of the Society, and the Publisher; the said sum shall be paid in four quarterly installments on or about the first days of January, April, July and October in each year. The sum paid to the editor shall be used to cover necessary secretarial expense, postage, and other editorial costs.
- (4) It is recited that this Agreement is made in pursuance of Paragraph 11 of an Agreement between the parties hereto dated March 10, 1952, and relating to the publication of APPLIED MICROBIOLOGY; and that the sum stipulated in Paragraphs 2 and 3 above, together with any other sums expended for editorial expenses, shall not in the aggregate exceed the limit set by the said Paragraph 11 for editorial expenses.
- (5) Charges stipulated in Paragraphs 2 and 3 above shall be charged to the profit-and-loss account of APPLIED MICROBIOLOGY necessarily kept by the Publisher under the aforesaid Agreement of March 10, 1952, and shall thus enter into the computation to determine division of profits as set forth in Paragraph 15 of that Agreement.

As witness the corporate names of the parties hereto, subscribed by their President, with their seals affixed, duly attested the day and year first above written.

THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN BACTERIOLOGISTS

By _____
President

Secretary

THE WILLIAMS & WILKINS COMPANY

By _____
President

Treasurer

CUMULATIVE INDEX

JOURNAL OF BACTERIOLOGY

A cumulative index is being compiled for the *Journal of Bacteriology* for the first time in 17 years. Only one other has ever been prepared, which was published in 1935 and covered the first 19 years of the *Journal's* existence (1916-1935, volumes 1-30). The intervening years have witnessed a "Second Golden Age of Bacteriology",

with the result that the *Journal* is now in volume 64, and each of the recent volumes contains many more papers than its earlier counterparts. Some indication of the magnitude of the expansion may be gained from the fact that a total of 473 manuscripts was received by the *Journal* during 1951 (only two-thirds of these were accepted); this compares with 362 during 1950, 160 during 1941, and 122 during 1935. The new index will cover volumes 31-64 (1935-1952). It is estimated that it will be not less than 400 pages long, compared with 277 for its predecessor. If everything goes according to schedule, the index should be in the hands of subscribers by the middle of 1953. Owing to the generous cooperation of the Office of Naval Research, which has entered into a contract with the Society to defray the editorial expenses, it has been possible to hold the prices down to \$5.00 prepublication and \$7.50 postpublication. Without this subvention, the prices would have had to be \$6.50 and \$9.00, respectively. These prices contemplate no profit either to the Publisher or to the Society.

This cumulative index to the country's principal repository of fundamental microbiological literature should be a useful bibliographic aid to any microbiologist. It will supplement the other indexing and abstracting services, any one of which may not have covered the *Journal* completely, and most of which must be searched annual or biannual volume by volume for the desired original references.

See the Publisher's announcement and order blank in this issue of the *News Letter*. Order your copy NOW.

NEWS ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

Mr. Wyman Bennett, formerly of the Forest Products Laboratory in Madison, Wisconsin, is now a supervisor in the Madison City Health Department.

Mr. Frank A. Kapral received the 1952 Mildred Wassermann Award (one year's membership in the S.A.B.) of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, given by Aaron Wasserman of the Class of 1942 to the major in bacteriology having the highest average for the course.

Mr. William W. Leathen, a fellow at the Mellon Institute since 1946, will head the Institute's newly established division of microbiology, which will function in the Institute's department of analytical chemistry, where it will assist in studies in bacteriology, yeasts and molds, and will handle the more refined applications of microscopy, especially in the field of phase microscopic examinations.

Dr. Harold Macy, director of the Minnesota

Agricultural Experimental Station, will become dean of the University of Minnesota Department of Agriculture on January first, when C. H. Bailey, the present dean, retires.

Dr. Donald S. Martin, until recently Dean of the University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine, has been appointed Chief of the Bacteriology Laboratory of the Communicable Disease Center, Public Health Service, Federal Security Agency, Atlanta, Georgia. He succeeds Dr. Martin Frobisher, Jr., who has resigned to become Chairman of the new Department of Bacteriology at the University of Georgia, Athens.

Dr. A. G. Norman, formerly of Camp Detrick, has assumed his new duties as Professor of Botany and Research Biochemistry of the University of Michigan Phoenix Memorial Project in Plant Nutrition.

Dr. Walter J. Nungester has been appointed Chairman of the Department of Bacteriology at the University of Michigan. Dr. Donald W. Smith and Dr. Harlyn O. Halvorson have been added to the staff as instructors. Dr. Philip Gerhardt will join the department as an assistant professor on January first. During the past year Dr. Lloyd L. Kempe and Dr. Ross B. Pringle have been added to the department as assistant professors, serving part time in the Department of Chemical Engineering and the Department of Internal Medicine, respectively. Dr. Burgess A. Vial will serve as instructor on a part time basis with a major assignment in surgery.

Dr. Lawrence W. Slanetz is on sabbatical leave from the University of New Hampshire until February 1, 1953. He is visiting research institutes and universities conducting research on certain animal diseases, in England, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Germany, France and Italy. He is also studying the organization and work offered by Departments of Bacteriology in some of these institutions. After his return to the U. S. A. in December, he will visit Departments of Bacteriology at State Universities and Experiment Stations along the Eastern seaboard.

Dr. Wolf Vishniac has been appointed an assistant professor of microbiology at Yale University.

On October 3 the Medical School of the University of Chicago celebrated its 25th anniversary. At the banquet the Medical Alumni Association gave Distinguished Service awards to 28 alumni. Among these were two members of the S.A.B.: Dr. Sara E. Branham and Dr. Francis B. Gordon. Another member, Dr. William S. Tillett, was one of the six awarded an honorary Doctor of Science degree at the Special Convocation held that morning.

1952 DOCTORATES

Name of Candidate	Title of Thesis
	<i>University of California</i>
Albert A. Benedict	Biological and Chemical Characterization of an Antigen for the Detection of Cutaneous Hypersensitivity in Brucellosis.
Nathan Entner	Studies on the Carbohydrate Metabolism of <i>Pseudomonas saccharophila</i> .
Shirley Gunter	Studies on Enzymatic Adaptation.
	<i>University of Kentucky</i>
Julius Goldberg	A Bacteriological and Serological Investigation of Granuloma Inguinale.
	<i>Rutgers University</i>
David Pramer	The Persistence, Production and Biological Effects of Streptomycin in Soil.
Antonio H. Romano	The Action of Fradisin on <i>Candida albicans</i> , with Special Reference to Sulfhydryl Group Formation.
William Segal	Transformation of Methionine by Microorganisms.
David W. Weiss	A Study of Antibiotics Active Against <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> .
	<i>Yale University</i>
William H. Gaylord	Intracellular Development of Vaccinia Virus.
Albert S. Kaplan	Localization of Poliomyelitis and Coxsackie Viruses within the Cell.
Nada Ledinko	Multiplication of Poliomyelitis Viruses in Tissue Cultures of Monkey Testes.

NEWS AND MEETINGS OF LOCAL BRANCHES

Southern California Branch (Frances A. Hallman, Secretary)

July 9, 1952, Dinner Meeting in the Mission Room of The Los Angeles Brewing Company.

1. Report on the National Council Meeting, Society of American Bacteriologists. M. J. Pickett, Department of Bacteriology, University of California at Los Angeles.

2. Bacteriological problems of the brewing industry. J. E. Stewart, Los Angeles, Brewing Company.

3. Studies on a heterophile antigen extracted from bovine erythrocytes. A. Markowitz and W. Simmonds, Department of Bacteriology and Department of Medical Microbiology, University of Southern California, Los Angeles.

4. Molecular filter in marine microbiology. C. Oppenheimer, Department of Microbiology, Scripps Institute of Oceanography, La Jolla.

Indiana Branch (Henry Koffler, Secretary)
October 17, 1952, joint meeting with the Indiana Academy of Science, and Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Indiana.

1. Lysozyme and gram positive bacteria. Lois C. Meyerholtz and S. E. Hartsell, Purdue University.

2. Effect of antibiotics on bacterial reduction of triphenyltetrazolium chloride (TTC). E. D. Weinberg, Indiana University.

3. Evidence for the coexistence of alternate routes of carbohydrate metabolism in *Penicillium chrysogenum* Q176. Edward C. Heath, Henry Koffler and E. P. Goldschmidt, Purdue University.

4. Isolation and study of an actinophage isolated from soil. M. M. Hoelm, L. Sitrler and J. M. McGuire, Eli Lilly and Company.

5. A statistical investigation into the factors of a starch-agar, filter-paper disc assay for amylases. Ralph Wellerson, Jr., Phillip A. Tetrault, Carl F. Kossack and Egon Stark, Purdue University.

6. Nutritional and cytological study of a stalked bacterium from well water. E. A. Grula and R. H. Weaver, University of Kentucky.

Symposium on Tissue Culture Studies

7. Microcinematography of cells in tissue culture. Raymond G. Murray, Indiana University.

8. The development and role of para-aminobenzoic acid in the early chick blastoderm. James D. Ebert, Indiana University.

9. Application of plant tissue culture. Charles W. Hagen, Indiana University.

10. Newer methods and practical applications of tissue culture. Robert N. Hull, Lilly Research Laboratories.

11. Factors affecting growth of mammalian viruses *in vitro*. Randall L. Thompson, Indiana University.

12. Counting infectious viral particles in tissue culture. Emilio Weiss, Indiana University.

Michigan Branch (Elizabeth J. Cope, Secretary)
September 30, 1952, Michigan State College East Lansing.

1. Present status of civilian defense efforts of Michigan bacteriologists. Raymond Sarber.

2. Electrophoretic and serum neutralization studies of sera from chickens exposed to infectious bronchitis virus. George T. Dimopoulos, East Lansing.

3. Visceral lesions of fatal varicella. O. C. Martineau, Detroit.

4. Progress of research on poliomyelitis. Gordon Brown, Ann Arbor.

New York City Branch (Ernest M. Weber, Secretary)

October 16, 1952, 60th meeting, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University.

The scientific program consisted of a discussion of the topic "Laboratory and Clinical Studies on the Proteolytic Enzymes of *Clostridium histolyticum*", by John B. MacLennan, Inez Mandl, and Robert H. Debellis of the Department of Microbiology, College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Rio De Janeiro Branch (A. Cury, Secretary)
May 30, 1952, Brazilian Press Association Building, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

1. Dehydrogenase activity of *Brucella abortus* and *B. suis*. Milton T. Mello and Niber Paz M. Silva, Instituto Oswaldo Cruz, Rio de Janeiro.

2. Study of some cases of rickettsioses with atypical serological behavior. J. Travassos and H. G. Pereira, Instituto Oswaldo Cruz, Rio de Janeiro.

3. Rural murine typhus. J. Travassos, H. G. Pereira and J. Salvador Echániz, Instituto Oswaldo Cruz, Rio de Janeiro.

4. Simplified media for *Listeria* and *Erysipelothrix*. A. Cury, Paulo de Góes, S. H. Hutner and T. J. Starr, Laboratory of Microbiology, School of Pharmacy, Universidade do Brasil, Rio de Janeiro, and Haskins Laboratories, New York.

5. Use of triphenyltetrazolium chloride in the study of some strains of *Mycobacterium*. Paulo de Góes, Milton T. Mello and Laerte de Andrade, Laboratory of Microbiology, School of Pharmacy, Universidade do Brasil and Instituto Oswaldo Cruz, Rio de Janeiro.

6. Action of electrolyzed silver on strains of *Mycobacterium*. Laerte de Andrade and M. Bruno Lobo, Laboratory of Microbiology, School of Pharmacy, Universidade do Brasil, Rio de Janeiro.

NEW MEMBERS

New Active Members

June 30, 1952 through October 8, 1952

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